

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany  
SUBJECT Schwarzheide Research Orders

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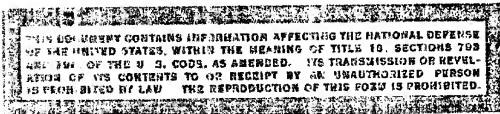
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1. In 1950, the SAG Brikett Schwarzheide plant received a research order from SAG Brikett Headquarters in Leipzig aiming at replacing cobalt-thorium contacts with iron contacts in the hydrogenation process of gasoline. The Schwarzheide plant has been working with cobalt-thorium contacts. Experimental installations were built for the purpose of trying out iron contacts. Although past attempts have met with no success, experiments are being continued. The main reason for the lack of success lies in the fact that all Schwarzheide contact ovens are for low operating pressure of maximum 20 atu, whereas iron contacts require higher pressure. 1/

2. There is on the territory of the Schwarzheide plant a Didier installation, i.e., a vertical chamber furnace which was formerly used for producing synthetic gas from lignite briquettes. In 1944, the installation was badly damaged by air attacks; it was not rebuilt. When Schwarzheide became an SAG plant, the Didier installation was not taken over by the SAG administration. However, later efforts made by the East German Government to dismantle the installation and use it somewhere else were rejected by SAG Brikett on the grounds that the installation was located on SAG territory. 2/ In 1953, UNIC, Berlin-Weissensee, assigned a research order to the Schwarzheide plant asking for the elaboration of two projects:

- a project for the reconstruction of the Didier installation in its previous form; and
- an additional project for the conversion of the installation so that it can be used for the production of metallurgical coke. 3/

3. Chief Engineer and Deputy Director Otto Klein and Chief Mechanic Karl Hilke were assigned supervision of the research order concerning the Didier installation. For the part pertaining to its conversion to an installation for producing metallurgical coke, the cooperation of the Ingenieurzentrale (engineer center) of the Otto Grothewohl plant in Buchten was requested and obtained.

25X1A/ Comment. It is interesting, in this connection, that contact ovens under construction for shipment to Russia in the SAG Transgasch plant in Rudisleben are designed for a pressure of 40 atu.

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- 2/ ☐ Comment. it was probably planned to use the installation in question.
- 3/ ☐ Comment. when used for the fabrication of synthetic gas, only 10% of the end result come out as gas, one fifth is coke.

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